AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 26-31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - The outer layer 16 may be applied in the one step steam chest molding operation by introducing the film sheeting into the mold space onto the core half of the mold during machine cycle and using the heated environment of the core chamber to fusion bond the outer layer 16 ~~160~~. The outer layer 16 may otherwise be applied to the backside as a post molding operation using conventional heat bonding equipment and tooling such as sonic welding, heated air, or vibration welding - -.

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, line 32 to page 7, line13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - The film material applied to the underside of the panel (i.e., the inner layer 20) may be a thermoplastic film material. Optionally, this film may be reinforced with one or more textiles. This material may be assembled as a one step process in the steam chest molding process or as a post molding operation using a heat bonding process. The resin film material applied to the backside of the panel serves to create an envelope which when coupled with the foil (~~outer~~ inner layer 20) on the visible side of the instrument panel 10 serves to at least partially encapsulate the EPP core material (of core 12). This encapsulation feature serves to contain any loose or fractured fragments of EPP core material which may separate from parent material during the deployment of the vehicle's SIR system and thus perform as required. The resin film may be applied in the one step steam chest

molding operation by introducing the film sheeting into the mold space onto the core half of the mold during machine cycle and using the heated environment of the core chamber to fusion bond the film. The film may otherwise be applied to the backside as a post molding operation using conventional heat bonding equipment and tooling such as sonic welding, heated air, or vibration welding.- -